

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Their defense that their job is to deliver "news" and that this particular story is in fact "news" is a distortion of the truth, and an abuse of their license. Opinion-based pieces are always listed in newspapers in separate pages, under Op-Ed, to indicate that it should not be taken as anything other than the author's personal opinion. By labeling a clearly one-sided piece of political propaganda (such as an anti-Kerry documentary) as "news," and subsequently forcing stations to air it, Sinclair is acting irresponsibly and endangering the already precarious position of media practices.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, democracy itself is endangered since corporate interests and personal agendas apparently have priority over truth, public interest, and honesty. Please review this company's decision, and keep it in mind when determining whether or not companies such as Sinclair deserve a license renewal. Thank you.